WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An element which implements particular functions, for carrying out and documenting a program or test sequence, wherein:

the element has at least one control input to which an external control signal can be supplied;

a variable can be varied in the element as a function of the external control signal; and

a process of carrying out a particular function can be varied by the element in such a manner that,

when the variable has a specific value and the external control signal is at a first signal level, the variable assumes a value which differs from the specific value;

when the variable is at that specific value and an external control signal which is at the first signal level is once again applied, that the variable remains at that specific value.

2. The element according to Claim 1, wherein

the variable is reset when the element has finished carrying out the particular function; and

when the variable is reset, the element outputs an external control signal, which is at the first signal level, via at least one control output of the element.

3. The element according to Claim 1, wherein

the specific value is zero and the value which differs from the specific value is nonzero;

the variable assumes the value "0" when the at least one control input of the element is supplied with an external control signal which is at a second signal level, with an external control signal which is at the second signal level then being output via the at least one control output of the element.

4. The element according to Claim 1, wherein the element has one control input and a number of control outputs, with the external control signal being output from the element via all control outputs.

5. The element according to Claim 1, wherein the element has a number of control inputs, with an external control signal which is at the first signal level being output via the at least one

control output when a control signal which corresponds to the first signal level is applied to all control inputs.

6. The element according to Claim 1, wherein the element has a number of control inputs, with an external control signal which is at the first signal level being output via the at least one control output when a control signal which corresponds to the first signal level is applied to at least one control input.

7. The element according to Claim 1, wherein the element has one control input and at least one control output as well as at least one data input, with an external control signal, which is applied to the control input and is at the first signal level, being output via that control output which is determined by the function of the element as a function of the signal which is applied to the at least one data input.

8. The element according to Claim 1, wherein:

the element has at least one data input signal and at least one data output signal;

the particular function comprises formation of at least one data output signal from the at least one data input signal which are applied to at least one data input; and

the at least one data output signal is output via at least one data output.

9. The element according to Claim 1, wherein the particular function of the element is a time measurement.

10. The element according to Claim 9, wherein the time measurement is carried out by measuring a specific time period starting from the beginning of one of an application of an external control signal at the first signal level, an application of a specific signal at a data input, or an application of a signal combination at a number of data inputs of the element, with one of an external control signal at the first signal level being output at the end of the time period via a control output of the element, and/or a corresponding data signal being output at one or more data outputs.

11. The element according to Claim 1, wherein the element can be supplied with an external control signal via a control input, with a time signal profile being output as the data output signal via a data output when the external control signal is at the first signal level.

12. A system for implementing a program or test sequence, comprising:

an element which implements a particular function; wherein

the element has at least one control input to which an external control signal can be supplied;

a variable can be varied in the element as a function of the external control signal; and

a process of carrying out a particular function can be varied by the element in such a manner that,

when the variable has a specific value and the external control signal is at a first signal level, the variable assumes a value which differs from the specific value;

when the variable is at that specific value and an external control signal which is at the first signal level is once again applied, that the variable remains at that specific value.

13. A method for documenting a program or test sequence using an element which implements a particular function, wherein the element has at least one control input to which an external control signal can be supplied, and variable can be varied in the

element as a function of the external control signal, said method comprising:

when the variable has a specific value and the external control signal is at a first level, causing the variable to assume a value which differs from the specific value; and

when the variable is at that specific value and an external control signal which is at the first signal level is once again applied, causing the variable to remain at the specific level.

14. The element according to Claim 3, wherein

the variable is reset when the element has finished carrying out the particular function; and

when the variable is reset, the element outputs an external control signal, which is at the first signal level, via at least one control output of the element.

15. The element according to Claim 3, wherein

the specific value is zero and the value which differs from the specific value is nonzero;

the variable assumes the value "0" when the at least one control input of the element is supplied with an external control signal which is at a second signal level, with an external control signal which is at the second signal level then being output via the at least one control output of the element.